



File Code: 3100
Date: February 11, 2020

Tim Roberts
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Roberts:

For more than two decades Klamath Falls, Oregon, located in Klamath County, and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) have been deeply concerned about air quality in the Klamath Basin and have worked to reduce all levels of PM10 and PM2.5 where feasible. Although great improvements have been made over the years, the community still has a difficult time readily complying with the daily National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Knowing how much fine particulate matter can impact the health of the community, and especially vulnerable populations, there is so much more to be done to comfortably comply with the NAAQS. The Targeted Airshed Grant will greatly help accomplish what is needed.

The primary culprit in exceeding the PM2.5 NAAQS has been found to be wood stoves. I fully support the efforts of Klamath County and Oregon DEQ to help reduce the emissions from woodstoves and other sources of PM2.5. This is an opportunity to address challenges from woodstoves, as well as weatherization, public education, improve compliance, and a broad number of other improvements in the community to help make them more resilient when facing higher levels of PM2.5 from any source.

The Fremont-Winema National Forest (Forest) works closely with Oregon DEQ to not burn forest residual materials when the weather does not cooperate to not impact the Klamath Basin with more PM2.5. The Forest supports all efforts to help reduce the levels of fine particulate matter to improve the health of all persons in the Klamath Basin. The Targeted Airshed Grant will help Oregon DEQ and Klamath County advance from their current efforts and further improve the programs and infrastructure needed to sustain this progress to improve air quality to well below the NAAQS. I fully support Oregon DEQ's application for the Targeted Airshed Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Sincerely,


BARRY L. IMLER
Forest Supervisor

cc: Mercury WP FY 2020 - 469763

